

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

1 1. (Currently Amended): A method for creating a supplier rating ~~matrix for rating services~~  
2 ~~of a supplier, the method comprising:~~  
3 ~~defining an initial supplier rating matrix;~~  
4 defining a first job attribute vector, the first job attribute vector including a set of sub-  
5 attributes, the set of sub-attributes including at least one of a plurality of ranges of tolerance  
6 values, a plurality of ranges of quantity values, and a plurality of ranges of times;  
7 defining a first performance vector, the first performance vector including a plurality of a  
8 set of performance metrics;  
9 defining a first supplier rating matrix;  
10 calculating a first matrix based on at least the first filter constant, the first performance  
11 vector, defining a first filter constant, wherein the first filter constant is value between 0 and 1;  
12 calculating a first term, the first term being a product of at least the first filter constant,  
13 the first performance vector, and the first job attribute vector;  
14 calculating a second ~~matrix~~ term, the second matrix term being a product of based on at  
15 least 1- the first filter constant and the first supplier rating ~~initial~~ matrix;  
16 adding the first term to the second term, wherein a second supplier rating matrix is  
17 created;  
18 calculating a first weighted average from each element of the second supplier rating  
19 matrix, wherein the first weighted average is a first supplier rating score.  
20 generating a feedback matrix by adding the first matrix to the second matrix;  
21 calculating a plurality of performance ratings each corresponding to a metric from the set  
22 of metrics from the feedback matrix; and  
23 calculating a final rating value in response to the plurality of performance ratings wherein  
24 the final rating is displayed to the customer through an interface in order to asses a supplier.

1 2. Cancelled.

1 Claim 3-5 (Previously Canceled)

1 6. (Previously Amended): The method of claim 1, the set of sub-attributes is defined using  
2 a technical requirements specification of a customer of a supplier.

Patent Application  
Attorney Docket No. AGIL-01600

1 Claim 7-8 (Previously Canceled)

1 9. (Previously Amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the set of performance metrics  
2 includes at least one of speed, quality, cost and service.

1 Claim 10-18 (Previously Canceled):

1 19. (Currently Amended): An article of manufacture having computer-readable program  
2 means for creating a supplier rating matrix for rating services of a supplier, the article  
3 comprising:

4 computer-readable program means for defining a first job attribute vector, the first job  
5 attribute vector including a set of sub-attributes, the set of sub-attributes including at least one of  
6 a plurality of ranges of tolerance values, a plurality of ranges of quantity values, and a plurality  
7 of ranges of times;

8 computer-readable program means for defining a first performance vector, the first  
9 performance vector including a set of performance metrics;

10 computer-readable program means for defining an initial supplier rating matrix;

11 computer-readable program means for defining a first filter constant, wherein the first  
12 filter constant is value between 0 and 1;

13 computer-readable program means for calculating a first matrix term, the matrix term  
14 being a product of based on at least 1- the first filter constant and the initial supplier rating matrix;

15 computer-readable program means for calculating a second matrix term, the second matrix  
16 term being a product based on at least the first filter constant, the first performance  
17 vector, and the first job attribute vector;

18 computer-readable program means for adding the first matrix term to the second matrix  
19 term, wherein a second supplier rating feedback matrix is created;

20 computer-readable program means for calculating a plurality of performance ratings each  
21 corresponding to a metric from the set of metrics from the feedback matrix; and

22 computer-readable program means for calculating a first weighted average from each  
23 element of the second supplier rating matrix, wherein the first weighted average is a first supplier  
24 rating score. a final rating value in response to the plurality of performance ratings wherein the  
25 final rating is displayed to the customer through an interface in order to asses a supplier.

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1 20. Cancelled.

1 21. (Previously Added): The article of claim 19, wherein the set of sub-attributes is defined  
2 using a technical requirements specification of a customer of a supplier.

1 22. (Previously Added): The method of claim 19 wherein the set of performance metrics  
2 includes at least one of speed, quality, cost and service.

1 23. (Currently Amended): A system for creating a supplier rating matrix for rating services  
2 of a supplier, the system including a CPU and a program stored in a computer readable medium  
3 configured to execute a set of interface modules, the system comprising:  
4 an interface module adapted to define a first job attribute vector, the first job attribute  
5 vector including a set of sub-attributes, the set of sub-attributes including at least one of a  
6 plurality of ranges of tolerance values, a plurality of ranges of quantity values, and a plurality of  
7 ranges of times;

8 an interface module adapted to define a first performance vector, the first performance  
9 vector including a set of performance metrics;

10 an interface module adapted to define a ~~first supplier rating~~ an initial supplier rating  
11 matrix;

12 an interface module adapted to define a first filter constant, wherein the first filter  
13 constant is value between 0 and 1;

14 an interface module adapted to calculate a first matrix term, the first matrix term being a  
15 ~~product of~~ based on at least 1- the first filter constant and the first supplier initial rating matrix;

16 an interface module adapted to calculate a second term matrix, the second matrix being a  
17 ~~product of~~ based on at least the first filter constant, the first performance vector and the first job  
18 attribute vector;

19 an interface module adapted to add the first term matrix to the second term matrix,  
20 wherein a ~~second supplier rating~~ feedback matrix is created;

21 an interface module adapted to calculate a plurality of performance ratings each  
22 corresponding to a metric from the set of metrics from the feedback matrix; and

23

24 an interface module adapted to calculate a first weighted average from each element of  
25 the second supplier rating matrix, wherein the first weighted average is a first supplier rating

26 score--final rating value in response to the plurality of performance ratings wherein the final  
27 rating is displayed to the customer through an interface in order to asses a supplier.

1 24. Cancelled.

1 25. (Previously Added): The system of claim 23, wherein the set of sub-attributes is defined  
2 using a technical requirements specification of a customer of a supplier.

1 26. (Previously Added): The system of claim 23 wherein the set of performance metrics  
2 includes at least one of speed, quality, cost and service.